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SUBJECT: KUWAIT MEDIA REACTION - IRAQ AND THE REGION

Block Quotes

Saturday, December 02, 2006

-- Radical Shiite anti-U.S. former MP Dr. Abdul Mohsen Jamal
inquired in progressive Arabic daily Al-Qabas under the title
"Lebanon and Living Together" (12/02):

"The question that poses itself is: Why did President Bush choose to
meet with the Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri Al-Maliki in Amman? Is it
true that the American forces there (in Iraq) cannot guarantee the
security of the President in the Iraqi capital? Meeting with
President Bush outside of Iraq sent the wrong message."

-- Under the title "Our Choice Is to Be Democratic" liberal Abdul
Latif Al-Duaij commented in progressive Arabic daily Al-Qabas
(12/02):

"We should not be content with appealing to the United States to
stay in Iraq. We should strive at the national and regional level
to bolster the national and democratic trends in Iraq. Today, we
ask our governments to act democratically and not like the
conservative regimes that are concerned about maintaining the status
quo as are some other neighboring states."

-- Kuwait University Political Science Professor, Dr. Abdullah
Khalifa Al-Shaijy questioned in conservative Arabic daily Al-Watan
under the title "Congested and Blocked Horizons and Civil Wars"
(12/02):

"The daring Saudi message reflects the fears of the Sunni majority
in the Islamic and Arab Worlds of what Iraq could face in the
future. But, is it not too late for movement and messages now? And
the second question is: will President Bush respond to warnings and
messages and the recommendations of the Baker Committee?"

-- Under the title "Revengeful War Paves the Way for Civil War"
Liberal Dr. Ayed Al-Mana' penned in conservative Arabic daily
Al-Watan (12/02):

"It will be a war that no one could comprehend. It will be a
catastrophe to Arab Iraqis and will pave the way for Iraq's
disintegration. The neighbouring states will not be spared its
fires and evils. However, it may lead to the revival of the
Ottoman-Safawi struggle under different banners but with the same
objective. That objective is the complete sectarian and political
annihilation of the other."

-- Under the title "The Alleged Moderation: Where Is It?" Liberal

Dr. Ahmad Al-Baghdadi editorialized in pro-government Arabic daily
Al-Seyassah (12/02):

"Moderation is an invention that was never granted religious
legitimacy; rather it was invented for political purposes. There is
nothing called 'moderation' in Islam."

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